

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-10 OES-05 ACDA-10

CU-04 NIC-01 FTC-01 JUSE-00 STR-04 CEA-01 FEAE-00

ERDA-07 IO-10 EUR-12 /161 W
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R 182059Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7685

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMCONSUL CURACAO

UNCLAS CARACAS 1808

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR ETRD VE XM

SUBJECT: PEREZ APPEALS FOR HEMISPHERIC UNITY AT LATIN
AMERICAN PARLIAMENT SESSION

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1. ADDRESSING THE OPENING SESSION OF THE LATIN AMERICAN

PARLIAMENT (LAP) IN CARACAS FEBRUARY 17, VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ CALLED FOR A TREATY WHICH WOULD GIVE INTERNATIONAL EFFECT TO LAP. PEREZ SAID IT DOES NOT MATTER THAT THE LATIN AMERICAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION, THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COMMON MARKET, AND THE ANDEAN PACT ALL FACE PROBLEMS. "THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE," PEREZ AFFIRMED. "EITHER WE INTEGRATE OURSELVES OR THE TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS WILL MANAGE OUR INTEGRATION." PEREZ NOTED THAT THE TASK WOULD NOT BE EASY "NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF OUR OWN PROBLEMS BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF OBSTACLES PLACED IN OUR WAY BY POWERFUL NATIONS THAT WISH TO MAINTAIN A FAVORABLE SITUATION FOR THEIR INTERESTS." PEREZ STATED, "ONLY THROUGH LATIN AMERICAN INTEGRATION WILL WE OBTAIN THE INSTRUMENTS TO OVERCOME THIS CIRCUMSTANCE TO THE BENEFIT OF OUR PEOPLE."

2. PEREZ SAID LATIN AMERICA IS FACING A CRISIS, WHICH HE CALLED A "CREATIVE" CRISIS. WHILE REAFFIRMING THE VIRTUES OF VENEZUELA'S DEMOCRACY, PEREZ NOTED THAT OTHER COUNTRIES WERE EXPERIMENTING WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF GOVERNMENT AND "QUESTIONING THE SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY." MEANWHILE, PEREZ OBSERVED, "THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES CONTINUE CASTING THEIR NETS OF ECONOMIC DOMINATION OVER US. TECHNOLOGY HAS REPLACED WEAPONRY AS THE MEANS OF DOMINATION." PEREZ WARNED THAT AS LONG AS THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES CONTINUE ADVANCING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THEIR UNIVERSITIES FOR THEIR OWN ENDS, "OUR CHILDREN WILL SUFFER FROM MALNUTRITION AND OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WILL LACK THE TOOLS IN ORDER TRULY TO CALL OURSELVES FREE COUNTRIES AND FREE MEN." PEREZ CALLED ON LAP TO "UNITE LATIN AMERICA IN THE FIGHT TO PRODUCE A NEW DIVISION OF LABOR, WHICH THE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES ARE CALLING A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER."

3. TURNING TO VENEZUELA'S OIL RICHES, PEREZ SAID HIS COUNTRY'S PETROLEUM "IS A LATIN AMERICAN INSTRUMENT, IN VENEZUELA'S HANDS, TO ASSURE ECONOMIC LIBERATION." PEREZ NOTED VENEZUELA WAS NOT USING ITS OIL RICHES "SELFISHLY". RATHER THAN DISCUSSING THE PRICE OF OIL, PEREZ SAID THAT "THE PRICE OF MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS WHICH THE UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IMPORT" SHOULD BE DISCUSSED. IN CLOSING, PEREZ OFFERED THE LAP DELEGATES VENEZUELA'S COOPERATION TO ACHIEVE THE IDEALS OF LATIN AMERICA'S UNCLASSIFIED

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LIBERATORS.

4. DELEGATIONS FROM ONLY 10 LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES ARE PRESENT FOR THE SEVENTH ASSEMBLY OF THE LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS, PARLIAMENTARIANS ARE ATTENDING FROM COLOMBIA (19 DELEGATES), ARGENTINA (16), BRAZIL (15), VENEZUELA (13), NETHERLANDS ANTILLES (10), NICARAGUA (6), COSTA RICA (6), AND EL SALVADOR (3). THE MEXICAN

AND DOMINICAN DELEGATIONS HAD NOT ARRIVED BY FEBRUARY 17.
IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT PARAGUAY WAS NOT SENDING A DELEGATION
ON ACCOUNT OF ITS PRESENT ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN. INCLUDED IN
THE ASSMBLAGE ARE SIX CHILEAN EX-PARLIAMENTARIANS WHO, ACCORD-
ING TO LAP'S CONSTITUTION, CAN BE DELEGATES DURING THE
PERIOD FOR WHICH THEY WERE ELECTED. THE CHILEANS HAVE
BEEN GIVEN THE RIGHT TO THE FLOOR BUT NOT TO VOTE.
VENEZUELAN NATIONAL CONGRESS DELEGATE ARTURO HERNANDEZ
GRISANTI, CURRENT PRESIDENT OF LAP, PRESIDED AT FEBRUARY 17
OPENING SESSIONS.
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